CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF THE CARRIAGE LAKES EXTENSION TRACT, HORRY COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

CHICORA RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION 447

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ABSTRACT

This study reports on an intensive cultural resources survey of an approximately 280 acre tract (134 acres of highland and 146 acres of wetland) of land in the east portion of Horry County, near the city of Little River, South Carolina. The work was conducted to assist The Brigman Company in complying with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The parcel, which includes 134 acres of upland and 146 acres of wetland, is to be used for residential development. The topography is somewhat flat, but slopes slightly toward the wetland located in the central portion of the tract.

The proposed undertaking will require the clearing of the tract, followed by construction of various infrastructure elements such as roads, stormwater drainage, and utilities. Individual lot construction will involve grading, additional utility construction, and subsequent building of structures. These activities have the potential to affect archaeological and historical sites and this survey was conducted to identify and assess archaeological and historical sites that may be in the project area. For this study, an area of potential effect (APE) 0.5 mile around the tract was assumed.

An investigation of the archaeological site files at the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology identified one site (38HR10) within 0.5 mile of the project area. The site was recorded in 1975 and was described as producing potsherds and flakes, however no date was ascribed by the site form. No eligibility recommendation was provided for the site.

The S.C. Department of Archives and History GIS was consulted for any previously recorded sites. No such sites were found in the project APE.

The archaeological survey of the lot incorporated shovel testing at 100-foot intervals along transects placed at 100-foot intervals within the high probability areas within the tract boundaries (i.e. no wetlands or poorly drained soils). All shovel test fill was screened through ¼-inch mesh and the shovel tests were backfilled at the completion of the study. A total of 112 shovel tests were excavated along 28 transect lines.

As a result of these investigations no sites were identified. This is likely due to the enormous amounts of poorly drained soils and the lack of a distinct ridge top.

A survey of public roads within a 0.5 mile of the proposed undertaking was conducted in an effort to identify any architectural sites over 50 years old which also retained their integrity. No such sites were found.

Finally, it is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered in the project area during clearing activities. Crews should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office or to Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No construction should take place in the vicinity of these late discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

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INTRODUCTION

This investigation was conducted by Dr. Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. Jeremy Richardson of the Brigman Company, Inc. in Conway, SC. The work was conducted to assist this company comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The project site consists of a 280 acre tract proposed to be used for a residential neighborhood located in east Horry County near the town of Little River (Figure 1). The survey area is irregular in shape with the western boundary bordering SC 61 and the proposed access road connecting to SC 90 to the south (Figure 2). The rest of the tract was defined by a cut line, which separated this parcel from the surrounding wooded properties.

The tract consists of approximately 269 acres of wetlands and poorly drained soils and 11 acres of upland suitable for surveying (moderately well-drained soils). The modern topographic map (Wampee 7.5', 1990) shows most of the project area as wetland, however, today there are at least three large ponds located in the northern portion of the tract that are not shown on the map. The surrounding area is somewhat rural, but is being quickly developed.

The tract, as previously mentioned, is intended to be used for residential development. This work will require the clearing of the project area and construction of utilities such as electrical, sewer, and water lines as well as an expanded road system when development begins. There will likely be increased short-term noise, traffic, and dust levels associated with the project. These activities have the potential to damage or otherwise affect any cultural resources that may be present on the tract.

This study, however, does not consider any future secondary impact of the project, including increased or expanded development of this portion of Horry County.

We were requested by Mr. Jeremy Richardson of the Brigman Company, Inc. to provide a proposal for the survey on December 14, 2005. A proposal was sent on December 15. This proposal was accepted work on the project began on May 30, 2006.

Initial background investigations incorporated a review of the site files at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology by Chicora Foundation. As a result of that work, one site (38HR10) was found in the 0.5 mile APE. The site was recorded in 1975 and was described as producing potsherds and flakes, however no date was ascribed to the site form. No eligibility recommendation was issued for the site.

In addition, the South Carolina Department of Archives and History GIS was consulted to check for any NRHP buildings, districts, structures, sites, or objects in the study area. Horry County received a historic survey in 1988 (Utterback 1988), as well as a 1973 survey that identified several structures in nearby Little River (Waccamaw Regional Planning and Development Council 1973). No sites were found and it was thought unlikely that additional resources would be found in the field.

Archival and historical research was limited to a review of secondary sources available in the Chicora Foundation files.

The archaeological survey was conducted from May 30-June 1, 2006 by Ms. Julie Poppell, Ms. Kim Igou, and Ms. Alyson Herbert under the direction of Dr. Michael Trinkley. Report

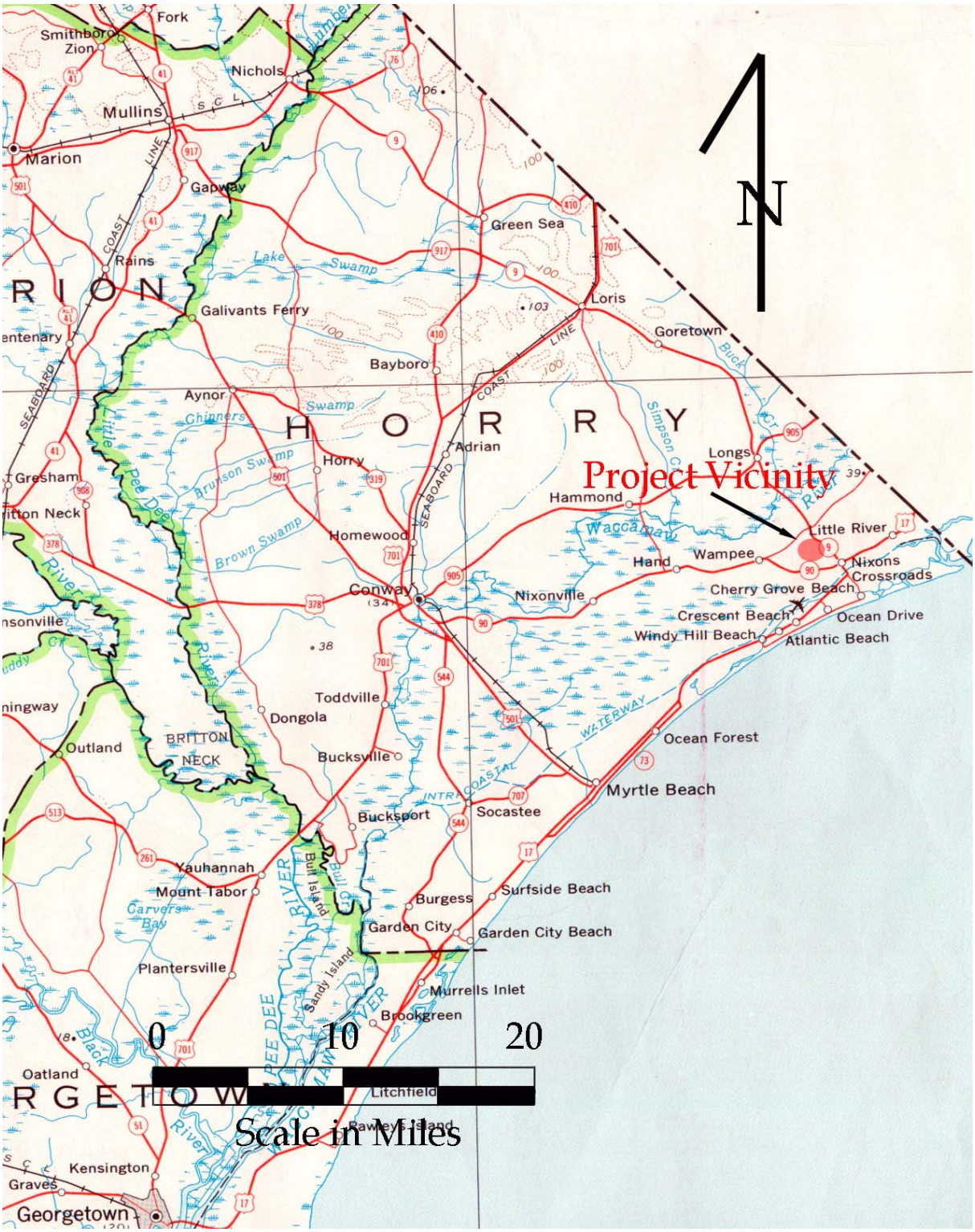

Figure 1. Project vicinity in Horry County (basemap is USGS South Carolina 1:500,000).

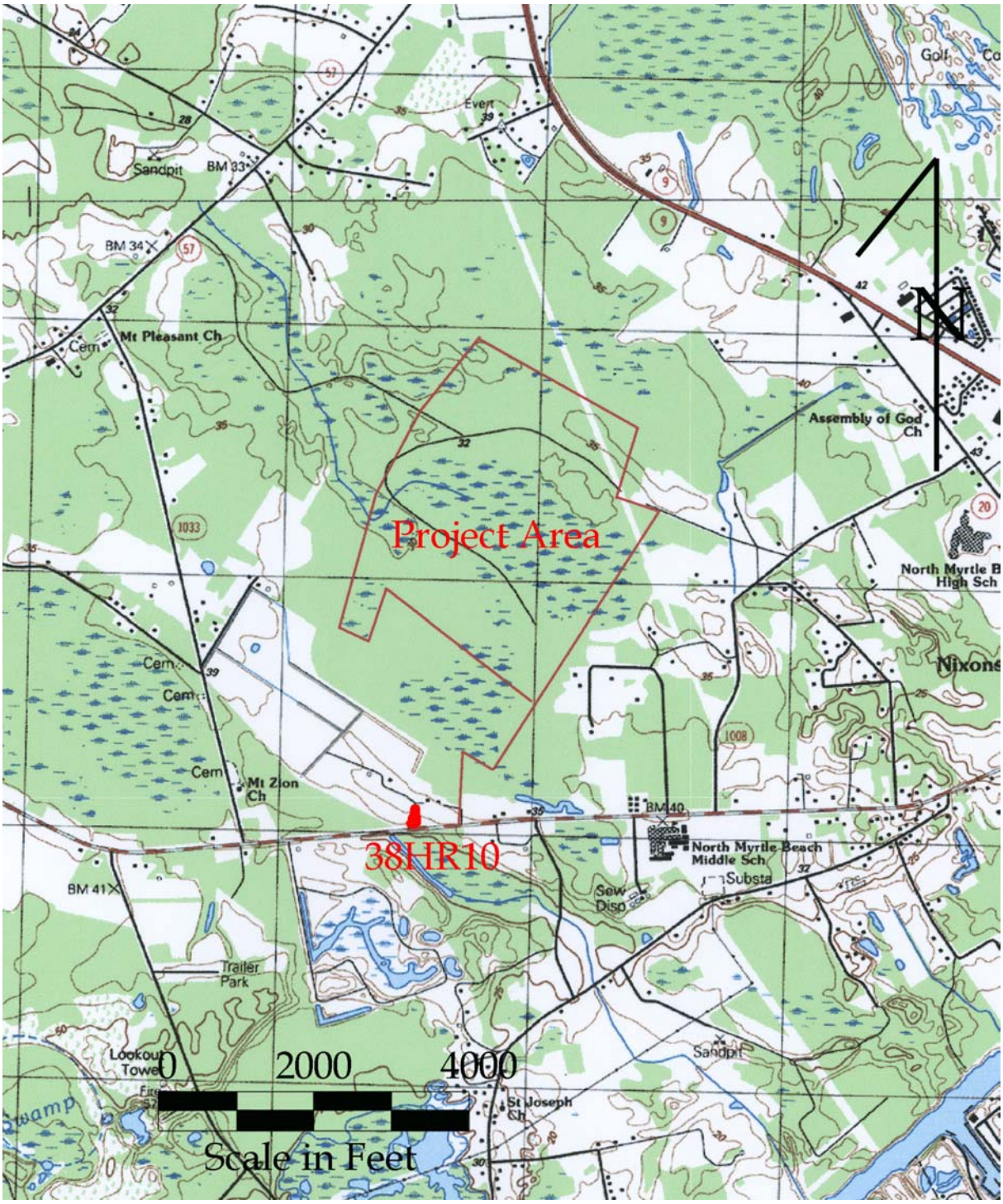

Figure 2. Project area and previously identified site (basemap is USGS Longs 7.5').

production was conducted at Chicora's laboratories in Columbia, South Carolina from June 2-6, 2006.

This report details the investigation of the project area undertaken by Chicora Foundation and the results of that investigation.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Physiography

The project area is situated in eastern Horry County, less than 1.5 miles west of Little River. The level topography in the region is interrupted by only occasional marsh sloughs and small wetland depressions. The dominating feature is the Waccamaw River to the west, which meanders, forming large cutoffs or lakes, as well as much swamp.

In general, the topography of the study tract is level, with only a slight elevation change toward the central wetland on the property. The Waccamaw essentially bisects the county into east and west halves and drains numerous swamps between the river and the Atlantic Ocean. On a regional scale the topography slopes either southeast toward the Waccamaw or northwest toward smaller drainages such as Maple Swamp.

Horry County is bounded to the north by Brunswick and Columbus counties, North Carolina, to the east by the Atlantic Ocean, to the south by Georgetown County, and to the west by Dillon and Marion counties. It lies within the Lower Coastal Plain, which is made up of fluvial deposits that contain varying amounts of sand, silt, and clay (Dudley 1986). This is also the area known as the Atlantic Coast Flatwoods which extends from the sea shore inland about 30 to 70 miles. The area is characterized by broad flats and depressions. While there are areas of well drained soils, much of the flatwoods consist primarily of poorly drained soils with clay subsoils, especially near the coast and in the project area (Ellerbe 1974:18).

Elevations may range from sea level to about 100 feet above mean sea level in the Lower Coastal Plain. In the project area there are no areas where the land is higher than about 35 feet above mean sea level (AMSL), and some of the area is lower toward the wetlands, most of which occur in the central portion of the tract. A noticeable characteristic of this physiographic area is how gradually the flat lands seem to grade into either freshwater marshes, savannahs, or swamps.

Figure 3. View of wetlands in the survey area.

Geology and Soils

The geology of the Lower Coastal Plain has been well described by Cooke (1936) who notes that from the Cape Fear River in North Carolina to Winyah Bay in South Carolina, the coast forms a "great arc scooped out by waves"

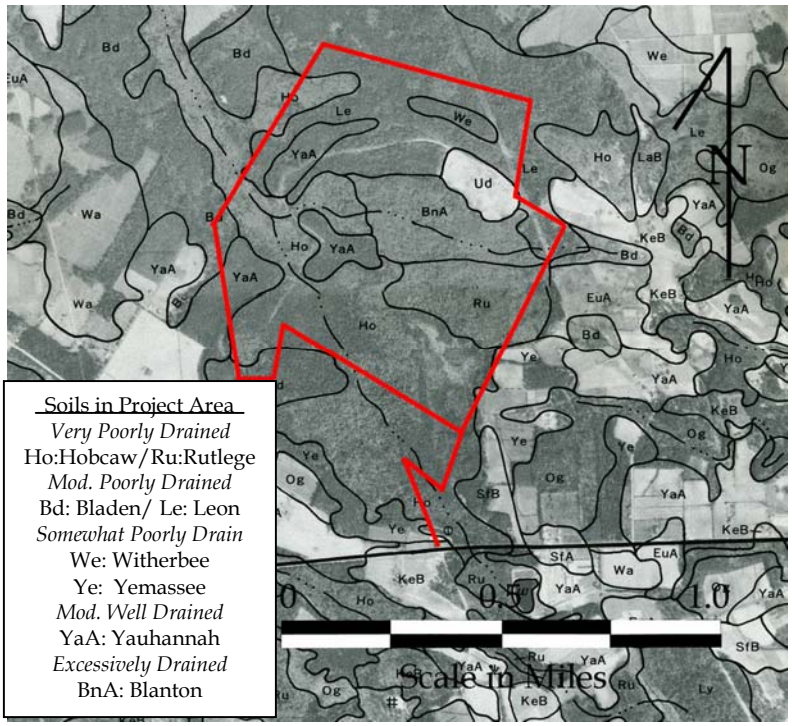

Figure 4. Portion of the soil survey showing the project tract.

(Cooke 1936:4). This area has been described by Brown (1975) as being an arcuate strand. In this area, salt marshes are poorly developed or absent and few tidal inlets breach the coast (Smith 1933:20-21). The situation is the result of an erosional history about 100,000 years ago. In general, however, the geology of the Lower Coastal Plain is less complex than that of other sections of the state.

As previously mentioned, the area is dominated by fluvial deposits of unconsolidated sands and clays. Rocks are almost totally absent from the area, although Mills (1972[1826]:584) does note that some compact shell limestone was found on the Waccamaw between Gaul's Ferry and Bear Bluff.

Soils were primarily formed during the Pleistocene epoch and several terraces were deposited (Dudley 1986:85). The project vicinity is characterized by the Yauhannah-Ogeechee-Bladen Association (Dudley 1986). This association, which occurs on nearly level to gently sloping soils, consists of moderately well drained and poorly drained soils with a loamy or sandy surface and a loamy to clayey subsoil.

The survey area includes eight soil series, consisting of mostly poorly (Bladen fine sandy loam and Leon fine sand) to very poorly drained soils (Hobcaw fine sandy loam and Rutlege loamy sand), but also containing the moderately well drained Yauhannah fine sandy loam, somewhat poorly drained Yemassee loamy fine sand and Witherbee sand, and the somewhat excessively drained Blanton sand (Figure 4).

Bladen soils have an A horizon of very ark gray (10YR3/1) fine sandy loam to a depth of 0.5 foot over a gray (10YR5/1) clay to 2.6 feet in depth. These soils have seasonal water tables ranging from present at the surface to a foot below the surface. Leon soils have an A horizon of black (10YR2/1) fine sand to 0.8 foot in depth over a light gray (10YR6/1) fine sand. The Leon soils exhibit water tables within the upper foot.

Hobcaw soils, which dominate the soils in the tract, have an A horizon of black (10YR2/1) fine sandy loam to 1.0 foot in depth over a very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) loamy sand to a depth of 1.3 feet. Like the Bladen soils, the Hobcaw Series may exhibit standing water and the water table is rarely more than a foot below the surface. The Rutlege Series have soils with an A horizon of black (10YR2/1) loamy sand to 1.0 foot in depth over a dark gray (10YR4/1) sand to 1.7 feet in depth. These soils may exhibit standing water over a foot in depth during certain periods.

Yauhannah soils have an Ap horizon of brown (10YR4/3) fine sandy loam to a depth of 0.7

foot over a yellowish brown (10YR5/6) sandy clay loam to 1.2 feet in depth. Blanton soils have an Ap horizon of grayish brown (10YR5/2) sand to 1.0 foot in depth over a very pale brown (10YR7/4) sand to over 2.0 feet in depth.

Yemassee soils have an A horizon of black (10YR2/1) loamy fine sand to 0.6 foot in depth over a light yellowish brown (10YR6/4) loamy fine sand to just over 1.0 foot while Witherbee soils have a very dark gray (10YR3/1) A horizon to 0.4 foot in depth over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) sand to 1.4 feet in depth.

In addition, the tract has a small section containing udorthents. These soils are described as either being spoil from the Intracoastal Waterway (which is highly possible given the proximity) or spoil from nearby roads or housing developments.

In 1826 Robert Mills commented that soil was rich and productive adjacent to Horry's rivers. Even the uplands were well suited for cotton with their light sandy soil underlaid by clay. But he commented that a great deal of swamp land was found in the district, "fit only for cattle ranges" (Mills 1972[1826]:585). Edmund Ruffin, who managed to visit much of South Carolina's coast in the mid-1840s, never sought to go to Horry, commenting that:

> I would have gone to Horry, which is called the "dark corner" of the state, but for having no expectation of finding anyone acquainted with or feeling interested in the objects of explorations (Mathew 1992:215).

Figure 5. View of mixed pines and hardwoods in the project area.

Floristics

Vegetation in Horry County is characterized in relation to the previously broad topographic patterns of poorly drained floodplains and lowlands, and the well drained uplands.

The vegetation in Horry County has been classified by Küchler (1964) as part of the Oak-Hickory-Pine forest, based on potential natural vegetation. This would consist of medium tall to tall forests of broadleaf deciduous and needleleaf evergreen trees. More specifically, however, the floodplains are covered by mixed hardwoods, including bald cypress, tupelo gum, and black gum. Less water tolerant trees, such as pines, occur on the uplands or on better-drained slopes. Also found in the bottomlands, floodplains, and Carolina bays are red maple, ash, water oak, elm, and sweet gum. On the better-drained uplands, pine dominates, with loblolly and longleaf pines being indigenous and the slash pine introduced.

In 1826 Mills in describing the Horry District vegetation, notes:

> The long leaf pine abounds, also the cypress, live oak, water oak, white oak, &c. The fruit trees are, peaches, apples, pears, plums, cherries, figs; besides strawberries, which grow wild, whortleberries, &c. The forest trees begin to bud in the latter part of March, and the fruit trees in April. The pine and cypress are mostly used for buildings (Mills 1972[1826]:582).

The poorly drained swamps and flatwoods of Horry County were not particularly attractive to early settlers and much of the area was not actively farmed for a number of years.

The current project area is covered in a mixed pine and hardwood forest. A large portion of the tract is wetland and three large ponds have been created in the northern portion of the tract.

Figure 6. View of a pond on the tract.

Climate

Elevation, latitude, and distance from the coast work close together to affect the climate of South Carolina, although Horry is clearly dominated by its maritime location. Much of the weather is controlled by the proximity of the Gulf Stream, about 50 miles offshore. In addition, the more westerly mountains block or moderate many of the cold air masses that flow across the state from west to east. Even the very cold air masses which cross the mountains are warmed by compression before the descent on the Coast.

As a result, the climate of Horry County is temperate. The winters are relatively mild with a mean temperature of 48°F and the summers are very warm and humid, with a mean temperature of 79°F and average humidity of 60%. Rainfall in the amount of about 51 inches is good for a broad range of crops. About 31 inches (or 60% of the total) occurs during the growing season, with until relatively recent periods of drought not being particularly common. Of course, there have been statewide droughts, such as the one in 1845, but more often the threat to Horry crops was flooding. Major floods have occurred in 1855, 1924, 1928, 1959, 1961, and 1973, with the September 1928 flood the largest known, reaching a stage of 12.75 feet above mean sea level (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1973:9).

The average growing season is about 234 days, although early freezes in the fall and late frosts in the spring can reduce this period by as much as 30 or more days (Dudley 1986:97). Consequently, most cotton planting, for example, did not take place until early May, avoiding the possibility that a late frost would damage the young seedlings.

PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC SYNOPSIS

Previous Research

Horry has received rather spotty archaeological attention. Derting and his colleagues, for example, list only 67 reports associated with the county, with 41 of these (or 61%) representing highway or sewer surveys (Derting et al. 1991). Although dated, this indicates that the attention has been focused on relatively narrow, contained corridors, with only minor attention devoted to the area's rich prehistoric and protohistoric resources.

Considerable, primarily unpublished, research took place in the Myrtle Beach area during the 1960s at the Ellsworth Site by Erika Fogg-Amed, then a student of Reinhold Englemyer at USC-Conway. Several test units were placed within the site which yielded Stallings, Thom's Creek, Hanover, and Cape Fear sherds, as well as a Morrow Mountain component (Fogg-Amed n.d. a). No site boundaries were established and, in fact, no site form has ever been filed.

Fogg-Amed also tested the "Coates Site," located about 10 miles north of Myrtle Beach on a high bluff overlooking a freshwater pond. Testing at this site yielded a dense shell midden that produced only lithic debitage (Fogg-Amed n.d. b). Again, no site form was filed.

Closer to the survey tract at least three project areas have been surveyed. All three involve housing developments (Sanders 2001; Reid 2004; and Trinkley and Southerland 2005) and all failed to identify any archaeological sites.

Prehistoric Overview

The Paleoindian period, lasting from 12,000 to 8,000 B.C., is evidenced by basally thinned, side-notched projectile points; fluted, lanceolate projectile points; side scrapers; end scrapers; and drills (Coe 1964; Michie 1977; Williams 1968). The Paleoindian occupation, while widespread, does not appear to have been intensive. Artifacts are most frequently found along major river drainages, which Michie interprets to support the concept of an economy "oriented towards the exploitation of now extinct mega-fauna" (Michie 1977:124).

Unfortunately, little is known about Paleoindian subsistence strategies, settlement systems, or social organization. Generally, archaeologists agree that the Paleoindian groups were at a band level of society (see Service 1966), were nomadic, and were both hunters and foragers. While population density, based on the isolated finds, is thought to have been low, Walthall suggests that toward the end of the period, "there was an increase in population density and in territoriality and that a number of new resource areas were beginning to be exploited" (Walthall 1980:30).

The Archaic period, which dates from 8000 to 2000 B.C., does not form a sharp break with the Paleoindian period, but is a slow transition characterized by a modern climate an increase in the diversity of material culture. Associated with this is a reliance on a broad spectrum of small mammals, although the white tailed deer was likely the most commonly exploited mammal. The chronology established by Coe (1964) for the North Carolina Piedmont may be applied with little modification to the South Carolina coastal plain and piedmont. Archaic period assemblages, characterized by corner-notched and broad stemmed projectile points, are fairly common, perhaps because the swamps and drainages offered especially attractive ecotones.

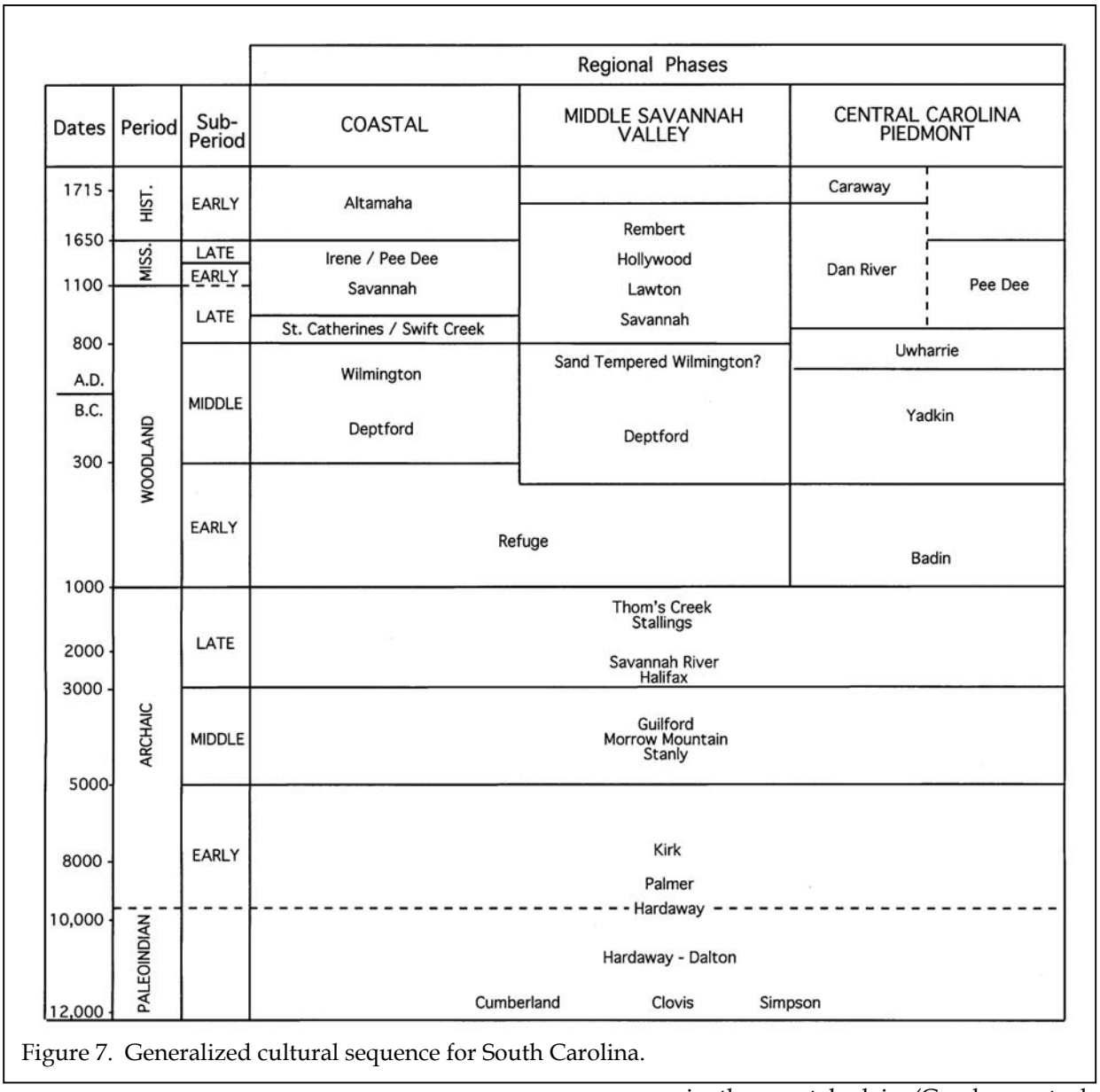

Figure 7. Generalized cultural sequence for South Carolina.

In the Coastal Plain of the South Carolina, there is an increase in the quantity of Early Archaic remains, probably associated with an increase in population and associated increase in the intensity of occupation. While Hardaway and Dalton points are typically found as isolated specimens along riverine environments, remains from the following Palmer phase are not only more common, but are also found in both riverine and interriverine settings. Kirks are likewise common in the coastal plain (Goodyear et al. 1979).

The two primary Middle Archaic phases found in the coastal plain are the Morrow Mountain and Guilford (the Stanly and Halifax complexes identified by Coe are rarely encountered). Our best information on the Middle Woodland comes from sites investigated west of the Appalachian Mountains, such as the work in the Little Tennessee River Valley. The work at

Middle Archaic river valley sites, with their evidence of a diverse floral and faunal subsistence base, seems to stand in stark contrast to Caldwell's Middle Archaic "Old Quartz Industry" of Georgia and South Carolina, where axes, choppers, and ground and polished stone tools are very rare.

The Late Archaic is characterized by the appearance of large, square stemmed Savannah River projectile points (Coe 1964). These people continued the intensive exploitation of the uplands much like earlier Archaic groups. The bulk of our data for this period, however, comes from work in the Uwharrie region of North Carolina.

The Woodland period begins, by definition, with the introduction of fired clay pottery about 2000 B.C. along the South Carolina coast (the introduction of pottery, and hence the beginning of the Woodland period, occurs much later in the Piedmont of South Carolina). It should be noted that many researchers call the period from about 2500 to 1000 B.C. the Late Archaic because of a perceived continuation of the Archaic lifestyle in spite of the manufacture of pottery. Regardless of terminology, the period from 2500 to 1000 B.C. is well documented on the South Carolina coast and is characterized by Stallings (fiber-tempered) pottery. The subsistence economy during this early period was based primarily on deer hunting and fishing, with supplemental inclusions of small mammals, birds, reptiles, and shellfish.

Like the Stallings settlement pattern, Thom's Creek sites are found in a variety of environmental zones and take on several forms. Thom's Creek sites are found throughout the South Carolina Coastal Zone, Coastal Plain, and up to the Fall Line. The sites are found into the North Carolina Coastal Plain, but do not appear to extend southward into Georgia.

In the Coastal Plain drainage of the Savannah River there is a change of settlement, and probably subsistence, away from the riverine focus found in the Stallings Phase (Hanson 1982:13; Stoltman 1974:235-236). Thom's Creek sites are more commonly found in the upland areas and lack evidence of intensive shellfish collection. In the Coastal Zone large, irregular shell middens; small, sparse shell middens; and large "shell rings" are found in the Thom's Creek settlement system.

The Deptford phase, which dates from 1100 B.C. to A.D. 600, is best characterized by fine to coarse sandy paste pottery with a check stamped surface treatment. The Deptford settlement pattern involves both coastal and inland sites.

Inland sites such as 38AK228-W, 38LX5, 38RD60, and 38BM40 indicate the presence of an extensive Deptford occupation on the Fall Line and the Coastal Plain, although sandy, acidic soils preclude statements on the subsistence base (Anderson 1979; Ryan 1972; Trinkley 1980b). These interior or upland Deptford sites, however, are strongly associated with the swamp terrace edge, and this environment is productive not only in nut masts, but also in large mammals such as deer. Perhaps the best data concerning Deptford "base camps" comes from the Lewis-West site (38AK228-W), where evidence of abundant food remains, storage pit features, elaborate material culture, mortuary behavior, and craft specialization has been reported (Sassaman et al. 1990:96-98).

Throughout much of the Coastal Zone and Coastal Plain north of Charleston, a somewhat different cultural manifestation is observed, related to the "Northern Tradition" (e.g., Caldwell 1958). This recently identified assemblage has been termed Deep Creek and was first identified from northern North Carolina sites (Phelps 1983). The Deep Creek assemblage is characterized by pottery with medium to coarse sand inclusions and surface treatments of cord marking, fabric impressing, simple stamping, and net impressing. Much of this material has been previously designated as the Middle Woodland "Cape Fear" pottery originally typed by South (1976). The Deep Creek wares date from about 1000 B.C. to

A.D. 1 in North Carolina, but may date later in South Carolina. The Deep Creek settlement and subsistence systems are poorly known, but appear to be very similar to those identified with the Deptford phase.

The Deep Creek assemblage strongly resembles Deptford both typologically and temporally. It appears this northern tradition of cord and fabric impressions was introduced and gradually accepted by indigenous South Carolina populations. During this time, some groups continued making only the older carved paddle0stamped pottery, while others mixed the two styles, and still others (and later all) made exclusively cord and fabric stamped wares.

The Middle Woodland in South Carolina is characterized by a pattern of settlement mobility and short-term occupation. On the southern coast it is associated with the Wilmington phase, while on the northern coast it is recognized by the presence of Hanover, McClellanville or Santee, and Mount Pleasant assemblages. The best data concerning Middle Woodland Coastal Zone assemblages comes from Phelps' (1983:32-33) work in North Carolina. Associated items include a small variety of the Roanoke Large Triangular points (Coe 1964:110-111), sandstone abraders, shell pendants, polished stone gorgets, celts, and woven marsh mats. Significantly, both primary inhumation and cremations are found.

On the Coastal Plain of South Carolina, researchers are finding evidence of a Middle Woodland Yadkin assemblage, best known from Coe's work at the Doerschuk site in North Carolina (Coe 1964:25-26). Yadkin pottery is characterized by a crushed quartz temper and cord marked, fabric impressed, and linear check stamped surface treatments. The Yadkin ceramics are associated with medium-sized triangular points, although Oliver (1981) suggests that a continuation of the Piedmont Stemmed Tradition to at least A.D. 300 coexisted with this Triangular Tradition. The Yadkin series in South Carolina was first observed by Ward (1978, 1983) from the White's Creek drainage in Marlboro County, South Carolina. Since then, a large Yadkin village has been identified by DePratter at the Dunlap site (38DA66) in Darlington County, South Carolina (Chester DePratter, personal communication 1985) and Blanton et al. (1986) and have excavated a small Yadkin site (389SU83) in Sumter County, South Carolina. Research at 38FL249 on the Roche Carolina tract in northern Florence County revealed an assemblage including Badin, Yadkin, and Wilmington wares (Trinkley et al. 1993:85-102). Anderson et al. (1982:299-302) offer additional typological assessments of the Yadkin wares in South Carolina.

Over the years, the suggestion that Cape Fear might be replace by such types as Deep Creek and Mount Pleasant has raised considerable controversy. Taylor, for example, rejects the use of the North Carolina types in favor of those developed by Anderson et al. (1982) from their work at Mattassee Lake in Berkeley County (Taylor 1984:80). Cable (1991) is even less generous in his denouncement of ceramic constructs developed nearly a decade ago, also favoring adoption of the Mattassee Lake typology and chronology. This construct, recognizing five phases (Deptford I-III, McClellanville, and Santee I), uses a type variety system.

Regardless of terminology, these Middle Woodland Coastal Plain and Coastal Zone phases continue the Early Woodland Deptford pattern of mobility. While sites are found all along the coast and inland to the Fall Line, shell midden sites evidence sparse shell and artifacts. Gone are the abundant shell tools, worked bone items, and clay balls. Recent investigations at Coastal Zone sites such as 38BU747 and 38BU1214, however, have provided some evidence of worked bone and shell items at Deptford phase middens (see Trinkley 1990).

In many respects, the South Carolina Late Woodland may be characterized as a continuation of previous Middle Woodland cultural assemblages. While outside the Carolinas there were major cultural changes, such as the continued development and elaboration of

agriculture, the Carolina groups settled into a lifeway not appreciably different from that observed for the previous 500 to 700 years (cf. Sassaman et al. 1990:14-15). This situation would remain unchanged until the development of the South Appalachian Mississippian complex (see Ferguson 1971).

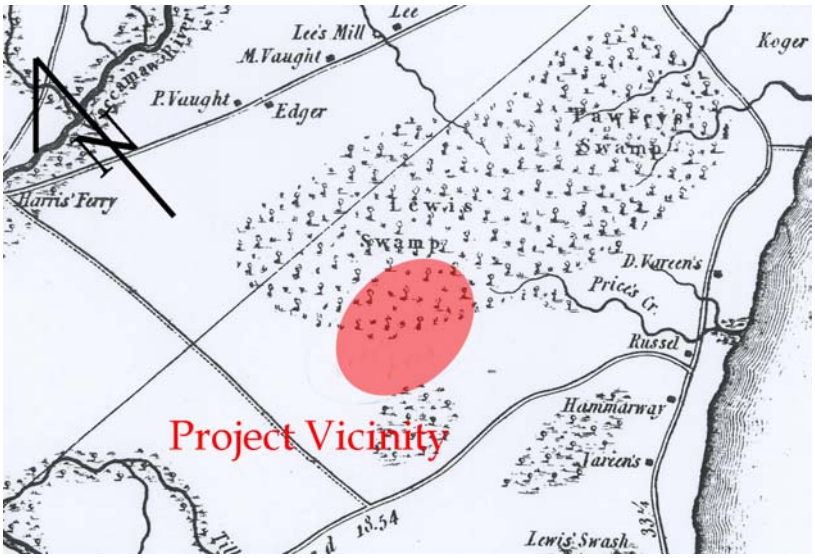

Figure 8. Portion of Mills' *Atlas* showing the project vicinity.

The South Appalachian Mississippian period, from about A.D. 1100 to A.D. 1640, is the most elaborate level of culture attained by the native inhabitants and is followed by cultural disintegration brought about largely by European disease. The period is characterized by complicated stamped pottery, complex social organization, agriculture, and the construction of temple mounds and ceremonial centers. The earliest phases include the Savannah and Pee Dee (A.D. 1200 to 1550).

Historic Synopsis

The earliest activity in the Horry County area may have been the Spanish Ayllon movement from Rio Jordon (Cape Fear River) to San Miguel de Gualdape, 45 leagues distant. Some have argued that Fort San Miguel may have been at the mouth of Winyah Bay, although Paul Hoffman has recently suggested the fort was in Beaufort County, South Carolina or Chatham County, Georgia.

While the English settled Charleston in 1670, the northern frontier was ignored, except for the Indian trade, until 1731, when the first Royal Governor of Carolina, Robert Johnson, directed 11 townships to be laid out, including Kingston on the west bank of the Waccamaw. Kingston covered much of Georgetown and Horry counties and by 1734 the town of Kingston, later known as Conwayboro and eventually Conway, was founded. The township, however, was never transformed into a parish, but remained part of the Parish of Prince George, Winyah until 1785. In that year Prince George was divided into four districts and by 1801 Horry District was formally separated from Georgetown (Rogers 1972:9). The designation of "county" was not used until 1868. A variety of townships were established, including Simpson Creek and Little River on the south side of the Waccamaw River.

Prior to the Revolution there were few residents in Kingston and it was not until the late eighteenth century that English, French, Scotch, and Irish settlers began coming into the area. Many settlers in the early nineteenth century came from North Carolina and the northern seaboard states.

In spite of Horry's coastal plain situation, the area developed along vastly different lines than its southern neighbors Georgetown and Charleston. Horry District was always isolated from the remainder of South Carolina and had much stronger connections with North Carolina (Rogers 1972:3). The major traffic artery was the Waccamaw River and this reliance on river transport did not change until the highway development of the 1930s. Subsistence farming was the main occupation in the early 1800s and

the farms were small, specializing in peas, wheat, rice, cotton, and corn, most for home consumption (Rogers 1972:5). Mills notes that the population was,

> mostly engaged in cultivating the soil. There are a few mechanics, such as blacksmiths, shoemakers, taylors [sic], halters, etc. (Mills 1972[1826]:583).

For Mills' *Atlas* of 1826, the Horry District was surveyed by Harlee in 1820. No settlements are shown in the project area (Figure 8). The absence of houses surrounding the project area may not so much indicate sparse settlement as it may reflect the subscription basis of Mills' *Atlas.* The subsistence farmers of Horry District may either have been unable to subscribe or may have had no need to let others know their location. The 1860 census for Horry District indicates that many of the farmers in Kingston, for example, could neither read nor write, further reducing the benefits of listing in an atlas. However, while this is generally the case, the current project area is shown to be part of Lewis/Pawleys Swamp, so it is unlikely that structures were ever inside the site boundaries.

The emphasis on subsistence farming appears to be the result of topography. Only 20% of the land is subject to the type of tidal overflow necessary for wet cultivation of rice. Mills (1972[1826]:581) notes that the river floodplain soil was productive where it could be reclaimed by drainage, while the upland soils were much less productive. This difference in quality is reflected in the prices for the land. Mills states that,

> the low land swamps, when secured from the freshets, will sell for 40 or $50 an acre. The uplands are valued at from $4 down to 25 cents per acre (Mills 1972[1826]:581).

Interestingly, the price of "improved farms" ranged from $20 to $50 an acre as late as 1918 (Tillman et al. 1919:340). The few plantations found in Horry District were primarily located in All Saints Parish, east and south of the Waccamaw River. It was from this area that a small quantity of rice was exported throughout the nineteenth century (Rogers 1972:13).

Because the soils of Horry District were not able to support plantation agriculture a unique distribution of population and a very low percentage of slaves were found in the region. Horry County also continued to play a minor role in state politics. The area, prior to the Civil War, was oriented to smaller farmers and never developed an aristocratic plantation society with political and economic powers. Most of the farms, including the larger ones, were situated in Kingston Township. The 1860 census indicates that of the 782 farms, 560 were in Kingston (Rogers 1972:12). In 1860, the population was 2,606 and there were only 708 slaves. This ratio of 70% white and 30% blacks has not only remained stable into the twentieth century, but also stands in contrast to Georgetown District where about 12% of the population was white and 88% was black until the 1880 census, when the white population increased to about 20% (Rogers 1972).

By the 1830s, a new industry was competing with farming in the Horry area. Northern immigrants from Maine, coupled with "pine woods speculators" form North Carolina began to exploit the forest products of both the uplands and swamp areas (Tillman et al. 1919:330; Berry 1970; Rogers 1972:14). The Horry District was the leading turpentine producer in South Carolina by 1860, producing products valued at $392,643. The lumber and turpentine industry continued to grow rapidly after the Civil War. Tobacco was introduced about 1850, but was not an important crop until after the Civil War, lead by the Green Sea Township.

Horry District never sided with the radical secessionists, possibly because of the influence of northern immigrants or because of the resentment of the political and economic power of slave owners. In any event, Horry County responded

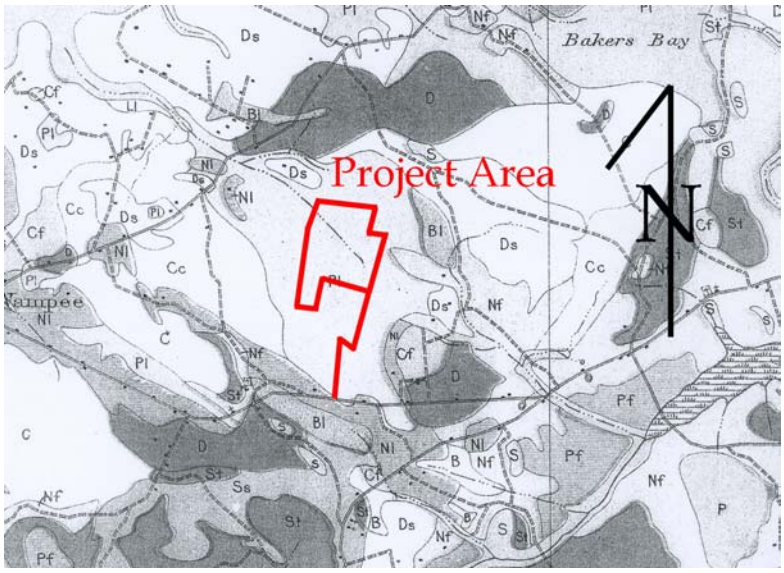

Figure 9. Portion of the 1918 Horry County Soil Survey showing the project area.

"enthusiastically" to the call for volunteers at the outbreak of the Civil War (Rogers 1972:35).

Horry District saw little involvement in the Civil War, although 925 of the 1,000 men in the voting population volunteered for duty and served (Rogers 1972:35). Fort Randell was established at Clardy's Point on the Little River and saw skirmishes in 1863 and 1865. The salt works of Peter Vaught, Sr. at Singleton Swash were raided in April 1864, and in 1865 a Union expedition was led up the Waccamaw to destroy ferries at Bull Creek and Yahannah (Rogers 1972:35-38).

After the Civil War, Horry was part of the Military District of Eastern South Carolina, but the Federal stay was short and by 1866 military troops had left Horry County. This absence of Federal troops continued throughout Reconstruction and the Democrats maintained political control throughout the period. Further, there was no land distribution in Horry County, possibly because there was really no land worth distributing (Rogers 1972:47). Following the Civil War a number of changes began to affect the Horry area. Tobacco began to be a more important crop, the first county bank was organized in 1880, the railroad and telegraph arrived in 1887, and in 1869 a regular weekly county newspaper appeared (the *Horry Weekly News,* which published until 1877). Conwayboro was changed to Conway in 1883 and the only other "major" town continued to be Little River.

The turpentine business boomed in the 1870s and by 1880 there were 21 operators in the county, producing $181,400 annually (Rogers 1972:50). Farming, however, continued to be important. In 1870 there were 1,300 farms averaging 50 acres in size. The major crops were still subsistence items such as corn, sweet potatoes, and rice. Few wage employees were found in Horry (Rogers 1972:58). The Socastee and Little River townships had the richest farms and the five largest farms also produced turpentine in 1870 (Rogers 1972:60). The Grange movement arrived in Horry County relatively late, never organized in many areas, and failed by the late 1870s.

By 1910, the County population had increased to almost 27,000 but there was no town, including Conway, with a population of at least 2,500. Conway continued, however, to have strong lumbering and mercantile interests. With the gradual decline of lumbering and the turpentine industry, farming was once again the dominant activity in the county. The period from 1880 to 1910 saw corn acreage increase 140%, cotton acreage increase 90%, and tobacco acreage increase from 19 to 5,347 acres. During the same time rice production fell from 747,689 to 1,210 pounds (Tillman et al. 1919:333). By 1919 the chief money crops were corn, cotton, and tobacco, although corn was largely used to supply the home and fatten stock. After 1895, tobacco began to replace cotton as a prime money crop and by 1910 was "grown more or less generally over a county by small farmers who live on their farms

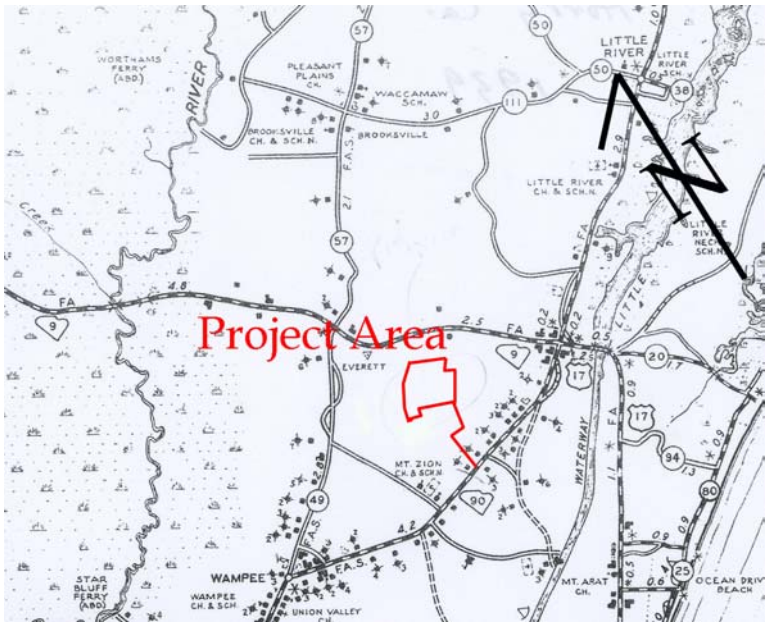

Figure 10. Portion of the 1939 *General Highway and Transportation Map of Horry County* showing the project area.

and superintend the work" (Tillman et al. 1919:335).

The 1918 soil survey map fails to show any structures in the survey area (Figure 9). An unnamed drainage runs through the survey area.

In the early twentieth century, hogs were the principle source of livestock income. These animals were usually slaughtered in the fall for home use or sale on the local market. Cattle were mostly scrub stock and dairying was neglected. Farm equipment was largely inadequate in the early 1900s and most of the plowing was done with one ox or mule. On many small farms the adequacy of farm equipment did not appreciably improve into the 1940s, when the probate inventory for one small Horry farmer listed only one mule, a one-horse wagon, one disc, four plows, one lot hoes, one guano distributor, a tobacco sprayer, and a corn planter (Trinkley and Caballero 1983:8). Tillman et al. (1919:338) indicate that in the early 1900s plowing was seldom more than 2 to 3 inches deep because of the poor machinery. It is suggested that this lack of equipment was not entirely related to a lack of prosperity, but rather was largely the result of cheap labor. Tillman et al. report that, "negro men receive 75 cents to $1.25 a day . . . while negro women are paid 50 to 65 cents a day" (Tillman et al. 1919:340).

Horry County, in 1910, had a relatively low rate of farm tenancy. The 1939 *General Highway and Transportation Map of Horry County* (Figure 10) shows no structures on the property. There are several houses and tenant structures shown along SC 90, where the access road to the current project connects, however, no remains were found.

Tillman et al. (1919:340) indicate that 72.9% of the farms were operated by owners and 27% by tenants. The average size of such farms (each tenancy is classified as a farm) was 117.8 acres. This is contrasted with piedmont Spartanburg, where in 1920 32.1% of the farms were operated by their owners and 67.7% were operated by tenants. In Spartanburg, where cotton was still king, the average farm size was 49.4 acres (Latimer et al. 1924:419). This dichotomy documents the differences between tenancy in the Atlantic Coastal Plain, where there was a low "devotion" to cotton, and in the Black Belt and Upper Piedmont, where cotton was more important, tenancy rates higher, and farm size smaller (see Woofter et al. 1936).

RESEARCH METHODS AND FINDINGS

Archaeological Field Methods and Findings

The initially proposed field techniques involved the placement of shovel tests at 100 foot intervals along transects placed at 100 foot intervals. While we originally planned on surveying 134 acres of what was described as highland, we refined this after referring to the modern soil survey (Dudley 1986). No soils of somewhat poorly drained or below would be surveyed.

All soil would be screened through ¼ - inch mesh, with each test numbered sequentially by transect. Each test would measure about 1 foot square and would normally be taken to a depth of at least 1 foot or until sterile subsoil was encountered. All cultural remains would be collected, except for mortar and brick, which would be quantitatively noted in the field and discarded. Notes would be maintained for profiles at any sites encountered. A total number of 112 shovel tests were excavated along 28 transects and along the access corridor.

Should sites (defined by the presence of two or more artifacts from either surface survey or shovel tests within a 50 feet area) be identified, further tests would be used to obtain data on site boundaries, artifact quantity and diversity, site integrity, and temporal affiliation. These tests would be placed at 25 to 50 feet intervals in a simple cruciform pattern until two consecutive negative shovel tests were encountered. The information required for completion of South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology site forms would be collected and photographs would be taken, if warranted in the opinion of the field investigators.

These proposed techniques were implemented with few significant modifications. Although the modern topographic map shows the project area has having some non-wetland areas to the north and to the south, in the field it was discovered that much of these areas were also wet. Three ponds had been excavated in the northern portion of the tract, however, this seems to have done little to dry out the soils on the current property. The soil survey shows only about 11 acres of moderately well drained soils. Figure 11 shows the placement of transects. While moderately well drained soils were only found in the southwest portion of the project area, transects were also placed in the seemingly non-wetland areas as shown by the topographic map. These soils, however tended to be wet, especially since it rained prior to this study. The survey area was wooded in a dense mixed pine and hardwood forest. A very dense understory was also present.

Sites would be evaluated for further work based on the eligibility criteria for the National Register of Historic Places. Chicora Foundation only provides an opinion of National Register eligibility and the final determination is made by the lead agency in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

Analysis of collections would follow professionally accepted standards with a level of intensity suitable to the quantity and quality of the remains. However, the archaeological survey of the project area failed to identify any remains. This is most likely because of the large amounts of poorly drained soils, lack of a distinct ridge top, and the absence of well defined creeks.

Architectural Survey

As previously discussed, we elected to use a 0.5 mile area of potential effect (APE). The

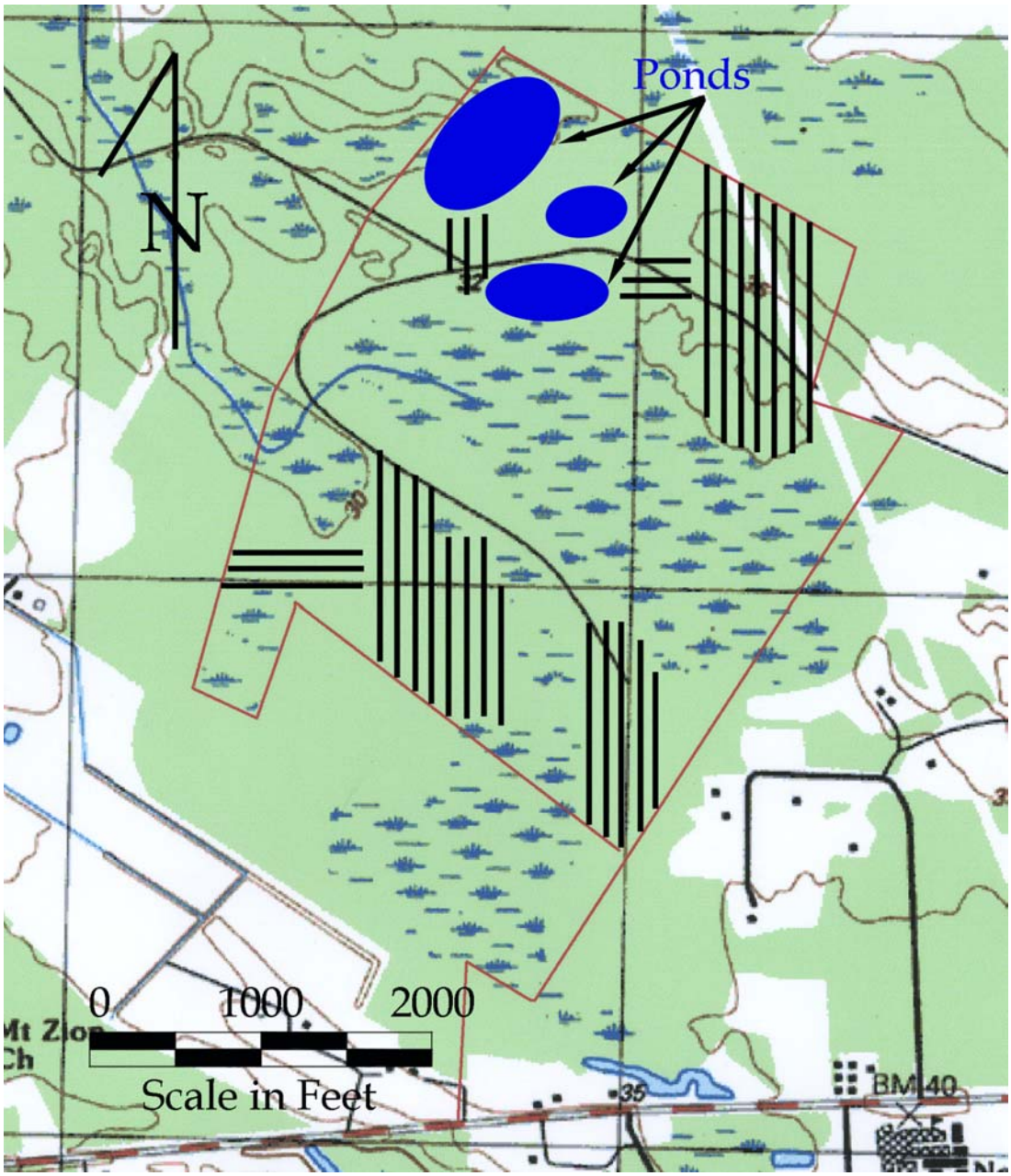

Figure 11. Transects placed in the project area.

architectural survey would record buildings, sites, structures, and objects that appeared to have been constructed before 1950 and which retained their integrity. Those which have undergone such extensive modifications to preclude their eligibility were not recorded.

For each identified resource, an architectural survey form would be completed and at least two representative photographs would be taken. Permanent control numbers would be assigned by the S.C. Department of Archives and History at the conclusion of the study. The site forms for the resources identified during this study would then be submitted to the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office.

Figure 12. View of existing transmission line in the northeast portion of the project area.

Site Evaluation and Findings

Archaeological sites would be evaluated for further work based on the eligibility criteria for the National Register of Historic Places. Chicora Foundation only provides an opinion of National Register eligibility and the final determination is made by the lead federal agency, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

The criteria for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places is described by 36CFR60.4, which states:

> the quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and
>
> a. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
>
> b. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
>
> c. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
>
> d. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

National Register Bulletin 36 (Townsend et al. 1993) provides an evaluative process that contains five steps for forming a clearly defined explicit rationale for either the site's eligibility or lack of eligibility. Briefly, these steps are:

- identification of the site's data sets or categories of archaeological information such as ceramics, lithics, subsistence re-mains, architectural remains, or sub-surface features;
- identification of the historic

context applicable to the site, providing a framework for the evaluative process;

▪ identification of the important research questions the site might be able to address, given the data sets and the context;

▪ evaluation of the site's archaeological integrity to ensure that the data sets were sufficiently well preserved to address the research questions; and

▪ identification of important research questions among all of those which might be asked and answered at the site.

Figure 13. Shovel testing in the project area.

This approach, of course, has been developed for use documenting eligibility of sites being actually nominated to the National Register of Historic Places where the evaluative process must stand alone, with relatively little reference to other documentation and where typically only one site is being considered. As a result, some aspects of the evaluative process have been summarized, but we have tried to focus on each archaeological site's ability to address significant research topics within the context of its available data sets.

The roads within 0.5 mile around the survey area were driven in order to locate any structure, object, or site that might be potentially eligible for the National Register.

As previously mentioned, no structures were found that appear to contain the integrity needed for inclusion on the National Register. This area is being quickly developed, with a large neighborhood being built in the area.

CONCLUSIONS

This study involved the examination of a 280 acre tract (only 11 acres of this, however, included even moderately well drained soils) in east Horry County, South Carolina. The tract is proposed for residential development. This report, conducted for Mr. Jeremy Richardson of the Brigman Company, Inc., provides the results of that investigation and is intended to assist the company comply with their historic preservation responsibilities.

The survey area consists of areas of dense mixed pines and hardwoods and wetlands. The archaeological survey, which included shovel testing of the upland areas conducted at 100-foot intervals, failed to uncover any archaeological sites. This is likely the result of the numerous amounts of poorly drained soils and the lack of a distinct ridge top.

The surrounding area is being quickly developed with a neighborhoods being constructed in the vicinity. A new highway (S-61), the western boundary of the project area, is not shown on the 1990 topographic map.

No structures were identified that appear to retain enough integrity to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

It is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered in the area during construction (as discussed above). As always, contractors should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office, or Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No further land altering activities should take place in the vicinity of these discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

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